

Patent Application S/N: 09/182,842

Attorney Docket No.: P-2195

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (eight times amended) A carrier and docking assembly for interconnecting a PC card device to a memory storage device bay of a personal computer, comprising:

a docking assembly having a pair of lateral sides for fixing the docking assembly in a memory storage bay, the lateral sides have rails;

a carrier slidably and removably mountable in the docking assembly, the carrier having rails that mate with the rails of the docking assembly, the carrier having a front and a rear, [the front has an opening defining plural offset PC card slots for receiving plural PC cards,] the rear has a plug for removably interconnecting the carrier with the docking assembly;

a fan mounts in the carrier for cooling the carrier; and

a PC card device having adapter circuitry mounted on the carrier and electrically connected with the plug;

wherein plural PC cards can engage with the PC card device through plural PC card slots at the front of the carrier.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) A carrier as set forth in claim 1, wherein the PC card device has a PCMCIA type III slot and a COMPACT FLASH slot for reading and writing to PC cards of various configurations.

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4. (original) A carrier as set forth in claim 3, wherein the adapter circuitry includes an IDE interface pin connector and the IDE interface pin connector couples with the plug.

5. (original) A carrier as set forth in claim 3, wherein the PC card device includes a ribbon cable extending from the IDE interface pin connector to the plug.

6. (original) A carrier as set forth in claim 1, wherein the carrier includes a folding handle mounted on the front.

7. (original) A carrier and docking assembly in combination for removeably interconnecting a PC card device with a computer, comprising:

a docking assembly having a pair of lateral sides for fixing the docking assembly in a memory storage bay, the lateral sides have rails;

a carrier slideably mountable into the docking assembly, the carrier has rails that mate with the rails of the docking assembly;

a fan mounted in the carrier for cooling the carrier;

a PC card device mounted in the carrier and being electrically connected with the docking assembly via the carrier; and

the PC card device includes plural offset slots for receiving plural PC cards.

8. (original) A carrier and docking assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein the docking assembly has width of 5 ¼ inches for inserting the carrier in a 5 ¼ inch memory storage

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bay.

9. (original) A carrier and docking assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein the docking assembly has a width of 3 ½ inches for inserting the carrier in a 3 ½ inch memory storage bay.

10. (original) A carrier and docking assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein the carrier and docking assembly have rails for aligning the carrier with a docking assembly.

11. (original) A carrier and docking assembly as set forth in claim 7, wherein the carrier has a handle for removing the carrier from the docking assembly and for carrying the carrier.

12. (canceled)

13. (original) A carrier and docking assembly in combination for removeably interconnecting a fan with a computer, comprising:

a docking assembly having a pair of lateral sides for fixing the docking assembly in a memory storage bay, the lateral sides have rails;

the docking assembly includes a power connector;

a carrier slidably mountable in the docking assembly, the carrier has plural offset slots for receiving plural PC cards and rails that mate with the rails of the docking

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assembly; and

a fan mounted in the carrier for cooling the carrier, the fan electrically connects with the docking assembly when the carrier slides into the docking assembly to enable the fan to cool the computer.

14. (previously presented) A carrier and docking assembly as set forth in claim 1, wherein the docking assembly includes a front, the front has a lock for holding the carrier within the docking assembly.

15. (twice amended) A carrier for interconnecting a PC card device to a personal computer, comprising:

a carrier connectable with a memory storage device rack which is mounted in a memory storage bay of a personal computer and which includes rails, the carrier having rails that slide with respect to the rails of the rack to enable the carrier to slide into the rack and to removably mount the carrier in the rack; and

a card device mounted in the carrier and being adapted with [the] plural [offset] card slots for receiving plural cards.

16. (previously presented) A carrier as set forth in Claim 15, wherein the carrier has a handle for removing the carrier from the rack.

17. (previously amended) A system comprising:

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a personal computer;

a rack fixed in a memory storage bay of the personal computer, the rack having rails for receiving a carrier;

a carrier being connectable with the rack, the carrier having rails that slide with respect to the rails of the rack to enable the carrier to slide into the rack and to removably mount in the rack;

a card device mounted in the carrier having plural offset slots for receiving plural cards of different sizes; and

the carrier having a handle for removing the carrier from the rack so that removal of the carrier enables replacement of the carrier with another carrier holding a hard disk drive, a card device, or other device.

18. (previously presented) A removable PC card device for facilitating data communication between one or more PC cards and a computer system which includes one or more drive bays, at least one of which includes a docking assembly which is configured to receive a disk drive rack, the PC card device comprising:

a housing which is adapted to be capable of coupling with the docking assembly in a manner in which the docking assembly is configured to receive disk drive racks; and

one or more PC card ports which are mounted inside the housing and which are adapted to receive the one or more PC cards and to connect the one or more PC cards to the computer so as to enable data communication between the PC cards and the computer when the housing is coupled with the docking assembly.

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